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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORTTOPIC Military Information from NaumburgEVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                      25X1DATE OF CONTENT                     DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 20 April 1951REFERENCES                     PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     REMARKS                     

This is UNEVALUATED Information

25X1

- Between 10 and 20 March 1951, the Hindenburg Kaserne in Naumburg (M 52/J 39) quartered troops who wore black-bordered ruby-colored epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets. Although the number of officers and EM observed in the billeting area had substantially decreased in comparison with previous observations, the barracks buildings were fully lighted on four nights, the last time was 18 March. No training activity was observed. Three freight trains, each of about 20 railroad cars, were loaded at the eastern railroad station on 13 March. Fifteen guns, apparently light AA guns, of undetermined caliber, and 1,200 troops with black-bordered ruby-colored epaulets, red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered black epaulets, including about 100 officers, were loaded. The trains left in the direction of the main railroad station on the same evening. Another train was loaded at the eastern railroad station with about 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including about 25 officers, five artillery pieces, and five motor vehicles                      were also loaded in the afternoon on 15 March. The train also departed toward the main railroad station the same afternoon. 25X1 25X1
- Most of the troops in the Bismarck Kaserne wore red-bordered black epaulets but a few soldiers wore black-bordered black epaulets. The majority of the troops were recruits. Despite the loading of troops from the installation together with troops from the Hindenburg Kaserne on 13 and 15 March, all windows of the Bismarck Kaserne were lighted on four evenings, the last time was on 18 March. There were substantially fewer officers and EM in the installation than had been previously observed there. No training activity was noticed. A freight train of 12 railroad cars, which arrived on 17 March at the eastern railroad station from the direction of the main railroad station, carried troops and 12 artillery pieces with solid rubber tires. The train was shunted to the area of the former Heereszeugamt (ordnance depot), which is located to the rear of the Bismarck Kaserne and the Hindenburg Kaserne.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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2

25X1

Another train, which arrived at the eastern railroad station from the direction of Teuchern on 18 March, was loaded with about 100 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets including 10 officers, 10 medium artillery pieces covered with tarpaulins, and 5 trucks.

25X1

3. The Barbara Kaserne was occupied by not more than 200 recruits wearing blue-bordered black epaulets with an insignia which source described as a double cross having a blue star in its center. Five officers, who were seen in the billeting area, wore the same insignia. Only 30 percent of the barracks windows were lighted after sundown. No training activity was observed during the four day period covered by the report.

25X1

4. [redacted] the total number of troops in the Naumburg area was 17,500 officers and EM in February. [redacted] the troops would leave for the Ohrdruf troop training grounds in the middle of May. \*\*\*

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- \* [redacted] Comment. The simultaneous absence of various component units of both the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps and the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div from their posts in Naumburg and Weissenfels during the period from 2 to 15 March was previously reported

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[redacted] The present report indicates that troops left in a westerly direction by rail as late as 13 and 15 March and that probably other troops returned as early as 17 and 18 March. The direction of movement of the trains indicates that the units went to the training area at Bad Koesen for field training and firing practice.

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[redacted] noise of troops practicing and of gunfire from the direction of Bad Koesen.

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- \*\* [redacted] Comment. The Barbara Kaserne is believed to quarter headquarters units of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps.

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- \*\*\* [redacted] Comment. The estimated strength reported [redacted] appears too high as the number of troops in the Naumburg and Weissenfels area is believed to be about 12,000.

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